

## Fostering Innovation in Aquaculture Research

There are ample opportunities to develop novel approaches and equipment for aquaculture because the industry is relatively young, and because aquaculture is developing during a period of rapid scientific advancement in fields such as materials science, engineering and genomics.

NOAA should consider employing proven approaches to foster innovation such as:

- Encouraging multi-disciplinary participation in projects
- Encouraging racial and gender diversity in projects
- Sponsoring maker-spaces, business accelerators or pre-permitted aquaculture development zones
- Providing small grants to companies to allow them to try new approaches.
- Encouraging researchers with no prior experience to collaborate on aquaculture projects